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2013 Sep 17 - Oct 1



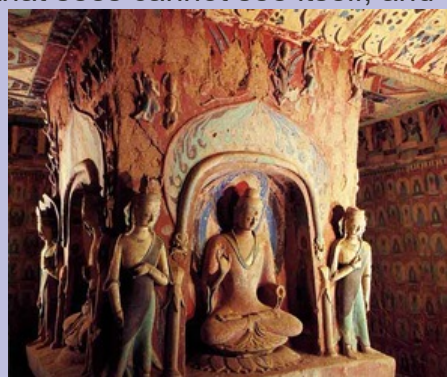
## September Sangha e-Newsletter

**Source:** The Ceasing of Notions, an early Zen text from the Dunhuang caves 406-1002CE, compiled by Soko Morinaga

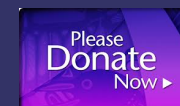
**Emmon:** "...Why is seeing of the Buddha not seeing with the eyes and knowing not knowing with the mind?"

**Master Nyuri:** "It is extremely difficult to see into the self-nature of the Dharma. An analogy might help. When the subtle black light reflects things, it seems as if both that which reflects and that which is reflected really exist. Just as the eye that sees cannot see itself, and also as yin and yang act on things, it seems as if both that which knows and that which is known exist separately. But there is no mind that can know - no thing that can do the knowing - hence the mind that knows cannot know itself."

**Emmon** rises then asks, "then what does the Way ultimately depend on?"



Please help support our temple, Dharma study & our programs.



Hartford Street Zen Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Donations are tax-deductible

**Master Nyuri** answers: "Ultimately it does not depend on anything; like emptiness, it relies on nothing. If the Way did depend on anything there would be stopping and starting, lord and reatiner."

## Upcoming Events:

● **Dharma Talks** - **Rev. Myo Lahey** - Saturdays: Sep 21, Oct 19, Nov 9, 16, 23... @10:15am.

● **Guest Speakers Saturdays 10:15am** - **September 28 - Japanese Missionary lecture/visit by Toku-ha Fukyoshi**; **October 5 - Zachary Smith, Anshi Daigi**; **October 26 - Rev Jeffrey Schneider**; **November 2 - Elaine Donlin Sensei** of Jodo Shinshu; **December 14 - Beata Chapman**

● **Full Moon Ceremony** - Saturday, September 21: the Full Harvest Moon

● **Sejiki Ceremony** ( A Ceremony to Comfort the Ancestral Spirits) - Saturday, October 26th.

● **Sangha Council** - Saturday, September 21st @12:30pm.

● **Founder's Memorial** - Issan's Memorial is generally on the 6th of the month, & the memorial for Philip Whalen is generally on the 26th @ 6:40pm

● **Study Hour** The Book of Serenity, we have books to share, we read together, feel free to drop-in - Thursdays @7:30pm

● **HSZC will be closed the following upcoming days:** October 12 - Only 9:25am public sitting, and November 28th - Closed.

● **Next Board of Directors' Meeting** - Second Wednesdays of the month: October 9th @7:30pm (you're welcome to attend & observe)

## Public Practice Schedule:

### Monday

6:00 pm Zazen  
6:40 pm Chanting Service

### Tuesday- Friday

6:00 am Zazen  
6:40 am Kinhin (walking meditation)  
6:50 am Zazen  
7:20 am Chanting Service  
7:40 am Soji (brief temple cleaning)

6:00 pm Zazen  
6:40 pm Chanting Service

Thursdays Study Hour 7:30pm

### Saturday

6:30 am Zazen  
7:10 am Chanting Service  
7:25 am Soji  
8:30 am Drop-in instruction  
9:25 am Zazen  
10:15 am Dharma Talk  
11:00 am Refreshments/Social



Magao/Dunhuang Caves (and pictures inside caves above)

● **For Late September:** Castro Street Fair Sunday October 6th! And in addition to a fun event, also a FUNdraising opportunity to help HSZC!

Once again, Hartford Street has been chosen as one of the organizations to benefit from the proceeds of the fair. Be a cheerleader for HSZC and volunteer for a four hour shift, doing anything from safety, to production assistant, to staffing the gates. Give the gift of your time. Flexible shifts and all volunteers will receive a gift bag from Whole Foods Company. Registration is simple and easy on eventbrite. Volunteer today. For questions contact the volunteer coordinator at [terrikota@gmail.com](mailto:terrikota@gmail.com)

● **From Our Residential Practitioners:** Practice is going strong, a new priest is here and we hear in the gentle breezes carrying our cooling blanket of fog, and the gentle, steady, and wise footsteps of an approaching Abbot here at the base of Sutro Mountain.

## HIV Meditation Sitting Group

weekly meditation group for those living with HIV, their friends, families, community supporters & anyone who wants to join us!  
Thursdays & Fridays

10:30 am zazen

11:00 am garden socializing

## Meditation in Recovery

(Men & Women)

weekly meditation group for men & women in recovery from addiction

Fridays, 7:30 pm - 9 pm

## Women's Meditation in Recovery

(Women only)

monthly meditation group for women in recovery from addiction First Thursdays

7:15 pm - 8:45 pm

**Hartford Street Zen Center** is a Castro neighborhood temple & residential practice center in the Soto Zen tradition of Shunryu Suzuki Roshi established to support & engage the

### ● Words From Our Practice Leader:

Valley Streams Sangha October 22, 2012 -- Rev Myo Lahey



...It is important to have a way of very gently correcting our bad habits, that is to say our wrong view of reality. Mostly you know you see reality as composed of unrelated objects that come together by mere chance and beings, persons not unlike yourselves, who come together by who knows what, by what power, and there is an old Buddhist verse..."just like two pieces of driftwood in

the great ocean come together and having come together drift apart so are the meeting among beings," this is a typical Buddhist attitude...so zazen is our antidote to wrong view, and if practiced properly it is powerful enough to actually erode and undo the effects of wrong view.

### ●Hartford Street History:

Issan Dorsey Dharma talk published in HSZC Newsletter Winter 1988:

We teach ourselves and encourage ourselves by creating this space (the zendo) so that we can begin looking at our mind. "Don't invite your thoughts to tea." Where is our breath-mind?" "How do you create background mind?" I used to say: allow this kind of mind, or allow it to arise. But now I'm saying: create background mind. This practice is simple: count your breaths, and don't invite your thoughts to tea. But, "don't invite your thoughts to tea" doesn't mean to get rid of thinking. That is discrimination. "Don't invite your thoughts to tea" is non-discrimination. So, there's no reason to get rid of the thoughts, but rather, to have some blank, non-interfering relationship with them. Don't make your mind blank, but rather, have some blank relationship with the thoughts. Begin to see the space behind and around the thoughts and shift the seat of your identity out of your thoughts and come to reside in your breath-mind. We develop our intention to reside in our breath-mind by first bringing our attention to "breath as mind" and then by shifting the seat of our identity from our thoughts to our breath-mind.

### ●From the Garden:

In Mesopotamia, humans raised domesticated goats, sheep, and cereal grains. Neolithic cultures involved farming.

LGBTQI (Queer) Community and our allies



HSZC on [Facebook](#)



"Scientists have carried out carbon-14 testing of animal and plant remains and have dated finds of domesticated sheep at 9000 BC in northern Iraq; cattle in the 6th millennium BC in northeastern Iran; goats at 8000 BC in central Iran; pigs at 8000 BC in Thailand and 7000 BC in Thessaly; onagers, or asses, at 7000 BC in Jarmo, Iraq; and horses at 4350 BC in Ukraine." Bio-Tech's [History of Agriculture](#).

● **Sangha Member Writings or Muse:** Anonymous -- Painting temple walls --

Painting temples walls  
Erudition of every crack, nail-hole, scuff or notch  
The crack that Issan saw as perfection  
The soil Steven brought back from the southwest trapped in its corners  
The nail-hole Philip saw before composing his finest prose.  
Ottmar fashioned us green before the whole city went green;  
John removed walls to support and encourage the incarcerated

If these walls had ears  
The walls would have ears  
They do have ears

Displaced spiders who guard corners of the entry in their cuneate webs  
sitting for hours patiently in spider zazen waiting for nourishment to  
arrive

"My great, great, great grandparents told us this was a Tibetan place? I  
don't see any red!

But what do the older generations know anyway?  
Look at our webs we've seized so many mosquitos  
We're clearly Myo's friends

Do not disturb us or the mosquitos will eat you instead of us eating they"

Walls of urban temple, take a new protective layer of love and support,  
As change and progression flows forward and we think we turn of the  
wheel

but actually that wheel turns us  
A new batch of lay monk-hearted queers fresh off the busy Castro  
streets

Your hundred year walls of plaster are needed  
to house the Dharma, the community, the queers, the spider,

At [HSZC.org](http://HSZC.org)

check out our [community events page](#)  
for more!

Via [Twitter](#)

**vertical  
response**  
A DELUXE COMPANY  
Free Email Marketing >>

The spider queer community dharma,  
for at least the another one hundred years



**Ready for "the" big commitment (Marriage) & seeking a LGBTQI, Buddhist space to start your new chapter in life?** HSZC & Rev. Myo Lahey can be a part of this amazing & love filled ceremony. HSZC can house your Zen Buddhist Wedding ceremony & Rev Myo can perform weddings! Please email [hszc108@yahoo.com](mailto:hszc108@yahoo.com), call us, or the best way to discuss is to stop by during our publicly open hours.

Practice Leader, Hartford Street Zen Center (HSZC) --- Reverend Myō Lahey



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*Please submit stories, reflections, personal news, artwork & photography for future newsletters to [tetsugen.keido@yahoo.com](mailto:tetsugen.keido@yahoo.com)*

**May this newsletter find you well & filled with equanimity! \_\_/\\\_\_**